Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /071 W

-----251642Z 040872 /43

PR 251600Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5907

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH ESCALATE RHETORIC

- 1. SUMMARY: MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH TRADE CHARGE OF INTRANSIGENCE, ESCALATING RHETORIC AND CLOUDING ATMOSPHERE FOR SECOND SESSION OF LEDRA PALACE TALKS MAY 26. END SUMMARY.
- 2. MAKARIOS, IN FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE SINCE HIS HEART ATTACK IN EARLY APRIL, OPENED THE CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATE FAIR MAY 20 WITH SHORT, TOUGH, AND AT TIMES MELODRAMATIC SPEECH. MAKARIOS DESCRIBED FAIR AS A SYMBOL OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT ECONOMIC RECOVERY FOLLOWING THE "AGGRESSION OF THE TURKISH ATILLA" AND AS AN "EXPRESSION OF THE SPIRIT TO STRUGGLE"; SAID THAT RECOVERY OF THE ECONOMY CONSTITUTES "AN IMPORTANT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE CONTINUATION OF OUR STRUGGLE, PARTICULARLY IF A LONG STRUGGLE IS MADE

IMPERATIVE BY TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE"; AND VOWED TO STRUGGLE FOR CYPRUS' SALVATION "AS LONG AS MY HEART BEATS."

- 2. NOTING THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS SIMULTANEOUSLY TAKING PLACE IN NICOSIA, MAKARIOS CLAIMED GREEK CYPRIOT EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A COMPROMISE HAD ENTAILED "PAINFUL CONCESSIONS" AND BLAMED TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE FOR NEGATIVE RESULTS AT VIENNA. HE WARNED: "RETREAT ON OUR PART HAS CERTAIN LIMITS BEYOND WHICH IT IS NOT POSSIBLE, NOR DO WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO GO. WE ARE NOT HOLDING THE TALKS IN ORDER TO NEGOTIATE THE TERMS OF OUR SURRENDER BECAUSE WE SHALL NEVER SURRENDER."
- 3. DENKTASH, SPEAKING TO PRESS UPON HIS RETURN MAY 23 FROM EIGHTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE IN LIBYA, DESCRIBED THE CONFERENCE AS "USEFUL" OPPORTUNITY TO EXPAND TURKISH COMMUNITY'S FOREIGN CONTACTS AND SAID CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS REAFFIRMED AND REINFORCED LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION. (COMMENT: DENKTASH SUCCEEDED THIS YEAR IN BEING REFERRED TO IN RESOLUTION AS "HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT DENKTASH" RATHER THAN AS LEADER OF TURKISH MUSLIM COMMUNITY BUT FAILED TO SECURE REFERENCE TO "TURKISH FEDERATED STATE OF CYPRUS.") TURNING TO FAMILIAR THEMES. DENKTASH THEN NOTED THE TURKS COULD NEVER ACCEPT GREEK PRETENSIONS TO REPRESENT THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT; WARNED THAT EFFORTS TO ELIMNATE THE TURKISH MAINLAND GUARANTEE WOULD BE REGARDED AS HOSTILE ACTIONS: AND SAID TURKISH COMMUNITY COULD NOT BE LEFT IN ITS PRESENT (STATELESS) SITUATION INDEFINITELY. IN THIS REGARD, DENKTASH CONTINUED, QUESTIONS OF PASSPORTS AND CENTRAL BANK MUST BE SETTLED QUICKLY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 4. RESPONDING TO REPORTERS' QUESTIONS, DENKTASH DENIED TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE AND CHARGED THAT IT WAS THE GREEKS AND GREEK CYPRIOTS WHO WERE HINDERING A SETTLEMENT IN ORDER TO PREVENT AMERICAN AID TO TURKEY. THE GREEK SIDE, HE CONTINUED, WANT TO BARGAIN WITH US OVER OUR FREEDOM, OUR EXISTENCE, AND OUR RIGHTS, AND THEY ARE USING AMERICA AS THEIR TOOL... AS LONG AS AMERICA INTERVENES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IN THIS WAY, IT WILL SPOIL THE GREEKS AND NO POSITIVE RESULT WILL BE ACHIEVED... ARE WE NEGOTIATING WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS OR WITH AMERICA? THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WANT TO MAKE US NEGOTIATE WITH AMERICA, AND IN AMERICA THEY ARE KNOWLINGLY PLAYING THIS GAME. THIS IS A VERY BITTER THINK."
- 5. ASKED ABOUT RECENT GOC CONVICTION OF DANISH SHIP
 CAPTAIN (FOR CALLING AT "ILLEGAL" FAMAGUSTA PORT), DENKTASH
 TERMED THE ACTION "HOOLIGANISM", WARNED THAT
 TURKISH SIDE WOULD HAVE TO COUNTERACT GREEK CYPRIOT ECONOMIC
 WARFARE, AND SAID THIS TYPE OF GREEK CYPRIOT ACTION WOULD

| ONLY DRIVE THE TWO CYPRIOT | COMMUNITIES FUI | RTHER APART. |
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| CR AWFORD | | |

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NICOSI01396
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration:

Film Number: D770186-1291

Format: TEL From: NICOSIA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770519/aaaaaqml.tel

Line Count: 118 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0057498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2374237 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH ESCALATE RHETORIC

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, (DENKTASH, RAUF), (MAKARIOS, ARCHBISHOP III)

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009